



Ysgol Gynradd Knelston

'Dream, Believe, Achieve Together'

Newyddion - Friday 12th September



Annwyl Parents / Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely summer break and enjoyed the sunshine! It has been a very busy start to the term at school, and we are delighted to see how well the children have settled in. They are already exploring their new Topic, **Earth and Beyond**, with curiosity and enthusiasm.

For some children, this term has also brought a change of classroom and teacher, and we are pleased to say they have adapted beautifully. We are all very excited about the term ahead and the learning and adventures it will bring.

We do, however, begin the term with some very sad news. Mr Donovan's mother recently passed away. Our thoughts are with him and his family during this difficult time. Understandably, Mr Donovan will be taking some time away from school. In his absence, we are pleased to welcome Miss Sebar Habib, who will be covering his class. Miss Habib has already made a great start and is settling in well into our school community.

Next week promises to be another busy week with lots happening across the school. Please keep an eye on Class Dojo for updates and information about activities and events.

Thank you for your continued support - we are looking forward to a positive and exciting term together.

Dymuniadau gorau,

J G Paynter



UNCRC Right of the Month

School Aim of the Month



Article 28: The right to learn and go to school.



"Happy, safe school community,

Patrwm y Pythefnos - Welsh Patterns to share at home:



Pwy wyt ti?

Who are you?

_____ dw i.

I am _____.



We are looking for children who can use these patterns (and others) in school.

Pupil Voice

We are excited to announce that this year we have launched our Pupil Voice Groups! Children from Years 1-6 have been assigned to a particular group and will be working together to share their ideas, help develop our school, and contribute to school improvement initiatives.



Already, the groups have reviewed previous targets and are developing new ones to make our school an even better place. Each group has nominated a Chair and Vice-Chair, and these pupils will come together to form our School Council.

- Pupil Voice Groups will meet once a fortnight
- School Council will meet with me on alternate weeks



This approach ensures that the voices of all groups contribute to the decisions and actions of the School Council. I am really looking forward to meeting with the School Council next week and hearing their exciting plans for the year ahead.

Here is a list of our Pupil Voice Groups: **Eco Club, Ocean Guardians, Sciene and Tech, Criw Cymraeg, School Council.**

We are thrilled to see our pupils taking an active role in shaping their school and can't wait to see their ideas in action!

Topic Launch...Earth & Beyond



This week, we launched our new topic **Earth and Beyond** in a truly unforgettable way - with a visit from the Wonderdome Planetarium! The children were absolutely captivated as they stepped inside the dome and were taken on an incredible journey through space. They got to explore the planets, learn about the stars and constellations, and discover what life is like as an astronaut - a truly out-of-this-world experience!

We were also delighted to be joined by our Science and Technology Governors, Dawn Thomas and Clara Beynon, who had just as much fun (if not more!) than the children. Thank you so much to them for

coming along and sharing in the experience.

Most importantly, we would like to say a huge thank you to Knelston PTA, who fully funded this amazing event. And of course, a heartfelt thank you to all our parents and families who contribute to the PTA's fundraising efforts - you have truly wowed the children this week!

As I shared with you last year, the support of our PTA makes a huge difference to what we are able to offer our pupils. Without them, we simply could not provide these wonderful, enriching experiences. Please do continue to support the PTA in any way you can - your involvement really does bring learning to life for our children.

What a fantastic way to start the term - we can't wait to see where our learning journey takes us next!



Afterschool club

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our childcare provision questionnaire. Your feedback has been so helpful, and we've tried to really listen to what you've told us about afterschool care and clubs.

Here's what we're planning, starting this **Monday 15th September**:

Childcare Provision - Mondays & Tuesdays

We know how important reliable afterschool care is for many families, so we're delighted to offer this new provision.

- **When:** Straight after school until **5:00pm**
- **Where:** In the School Hall - children can be collected from the **main school entrance**
- **What's included:** A variety of fun activities to keep children busy, plus a snack.
- **Who** - Pupils from **Rec - Y6**
- **Cost:** **£7** per child / **£5** per sibling (e.g. if you have 2 children attending, it's £5 each)
- **Booking:** Please book by **12pm on the day** so we can plan ahead
- **Flexibility:** You can book for as many weeks as you'd like in one go, so you don't need to remember each week.
- **Cancellations:** If you need to cancel, please let us know at least **24 hours in advance** - later cancellations will still be charged.



We'll be running this as a **trial until October half term** and, if it works well for families, we'll look at adding more days.

Extra-Curricular Clubs - Wednesdays & Thursdays

Normal afterschool clubs will continue on these days.

Wednesday - Expressive Arts club with Miss Pitson (We are hoping that the pupils who attend this club will have the opportunity to perform at the Grand Theatre Swansea as part of the Primary Partners show.) **Rec - Y6**

Wednesday - Lego Club with Mrs Latham **Rec - Y6**

Thursday - Rugby club with Mark Bandalli and Fall Bay coaches. We are excited to be working with Fall Bay Rugby club to bring rugby coaching to our school. This club will be starting later this term, and we will share updates with you as soon as it is ready to begin.

- **When:** Straight after school until **4:30pm**
- **Where:** classrooms - children can be collected from the **main school entrance**.
- **Cost** - **£2.50** donation.
- **How to book:** Please use **iPay**.
- **Booking deadline:** Bookings need to be made **by 12pm on the day**
- **Flexibility:** You can block-book for several weeks in advance if that's easier for you.
- **Cancellations:** If you need to cancel, please let us know at least **24 hours in advance** - later cancellations will still be charged.

Friday Lunchtime - Choir with Mrs Smith Y2 - Y6 Children are welcome to join on the day if they'd like to take part. This year, we're excited to grow our choir and hope to perform in the local community, sharing our singing with others!

We hope these plans give you more options and help make afterschool a little easier. Most importantly, we're excited to offer children a safe, happy place to spend their afternoons with us.

iPay will be live with all offers by 3pm today!

Thank you again for your support and suggestions.

Friday Enrichment

We would like to let you know about some upcoming changes to our **Friday Enrichment Programme**. After reviewing our current provision, we felt that it could offer even more variety and inspiration for our children.

Starting this term, we will introduce a **new timetable each term** that allows all children from **Year 1 to Year 6** to take part in a wide range of enriching experiences.

Here's how it will work:

- The children will be split into **four mixed-age groups** (Years 1-6 together)
- Each group will take part in a different enrichment activity each week
- Over the course of the half term, every child will experience **all four activities**
- **Children can still wear non-uniform on Fridays** to make the day feel special and practical for the activities they'll be taking part in

Our four enrichment activities this term are:

- **Gower Explorers** - children will head out on the minibus for enriching adventures, such as exploring the beaches or local area.
- **Science & Tech** - hands-on investigations and exciting experiments to spark curiosity



- **Art & Design** - opportunities to get creative, from pottery to sculpture and beyond
- **Music** - composing music, writing lyrics, creating videos, and sharing performances

At the end of each half term, we will review the activities and create a **new timetable**, giving children fresh opportunities to explore and learn in different ways.

We are looking forward to seeing the children collaborate, develop new skills, and discover their interests through this refreshed approach to enrichment.

Thank you, as always, for your support as we continue to develop and improve the opportunities we offer our pupils.

Finally...

As always, if you have queries, compliments, complaints, concerns or issues you would like to discuss please speak to a member of staff. If family or friends help with school runs, we'd love for you to share the weekly newsletter with them. Please also make sure we have your updated contact details so we can stay connected!

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Dymuniadau gorau,

J G Paynter

Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Date	Activity	Additional Information
26.09.25	Girls Rugby Tournament	Select Y4-6 girls heading to Llandarcy, details sent to Parents of those involved.
29.09.25 - 03.10.25	Scholastic Book Fair	Book Fair is back! We will only be hosting one fair this school year so this is the only one!
10.10.25	Theatre Na Nog	Y5/6 more details to follow
23.10.25	Nasal Flu Vaccinations	All children years Reception to Y6
27.10.25 - 02.11.25	HALF TERM	
INSET Days:		

Weekly after school clubs, lunchtime choir, foundation welly Wednesdays and music.
Fortnightly assemblies with Vicar Peter.

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